



THE FROMM INSTITUTE  
FOR LIFELONG LEARNING  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

# FROMM FOCUS

*The Newsletter of the Fromm Institute*

Issue #7 • Feb. 22, 2022

## PREPARING FOR THE NEXT BUFFET

For those who have discovered the Fromm Institute and found it to be a delicious part of their “career free” years, looking forward to what’s on our future educational menu is like finishing a really good meal and curiously dreaming about dinner tomorrow night. Questions like, “Will it be as tasty?” or “How will it be prepared?” are quickly dispatched when you know that the same fine ingredients and cooks that have made your supper so good tonight, will be there to make it just as satisfying tomorrow.

The 2022 Winter Session is now winding down and if you’ve been a student this session, this year, or for years, then you probably know that what lies ahead will be just as beneficial to you as what you are enjoying right now. It is guaranteed to be made from the same fine ingredients – Fromm’s focus on college level learning in the Fine Arts, Humanities and Sciences. The fine Michelin star chefs who are our faculty will create the new menu and our hosts and servers will be the always attentive and dedicated Fromm Institute staff. It is sure to be another five-star experience for all our guests – you, our ever-inquisitive students. Is anybody hungry yet?

Next session, the Spring 2022 curriculum is shaping up into an amazing buffet banquet and it looks like the pandemic will allow us to open up several in-person classes. We have decided to proceed the same way I tell my nephew to proceed at the candy store while his mom waits in the car – PROCEED UNTIL APPREHENDED!! Please share the following information with your friends who do not have computers and have missed out on classes all this time. We will have a total of 19 courses – 11 of those will be available to you via Zoom and 14 will be available to you In-Person.

Yes, it’s all about to begin, or begin again. It’s that time of year when you find yourself loving spring, and our amazing educational experience that will soon be back here on the USF campus. When all is said, and done, you’ll find yourself among the privileged folks who made their reservation. To whet your taste buds for that satisfying lifelong learning feast called the Fromm Institute, the next page offers a sneak peak of the next great “spread” just waiting for you to enjoy this Spring. Thanks for being such a loyal and appreciative patron. “Bon Appetite!”

# SPRING 2022 CALENDAR

**March 14** – Enrollment Begins / Catalogs Available

**May 2** – Spring Classes Begin

**June 23** – Spring Classes End

**June 27-30** - Make Up Week

**Thurs., May 19** – USF Commencement (no classes)

**Mon., May 30** – Memorial Day Holiday (no classes)

**Mon., June 20** – Juneteenth Holiday (no classes)

## SPRING 2022 COURSES

### MONDAY MORNING 10 A.M. TO 11:40 A.M.

Thinking About Thinking: From the Human Condition to  
a Post-Human Future (**Zoom Only**)

Prof. David Peritz

History of Architecture, Part IV (**Zoom & In-Person**)

Prof. Toby Engelberg

**SEMINAR:** Spoken Spanish, Level 3 (**In-Person Only**)

Prof. Aaron Almendares-Berman

### MONDAY AFTERNOON 1 P.M. TO 2:40 P.M.

**SEMINAR:** What Role Does Place Have in  
Memoir Writing? (**Zoom Only**)

Prof. Lily Iona MacKenzie

Art of the Lyric: Poets of Tin Pan Alley (**Zoom & In-Person**)

Prof. Sonny Buxton

CERN: How High-Energy Physics Led to the Secrets of  
the Universe, the World Wide Web & a Model for  
International Scientific Collaboration (**In-Person Only**)

Prof. Bebo White

### TUESDAY MORNING 10 A.M. TO 11:40 A.M.

The Art of California: West of the West (**Zoom Only**)

Prof. Avril Angevine

Aging Purposefully: a Strategic Approach to Growing Older  
& Planning for Your Desired Future (**In-Person Only**)

Prof. Richard Corriea

## TUESDAY AFTERNOON

1 P.M. TO 2:40 P.M.

Everyday Astronomy: Orienting Yourself in Space, Time and the Sky **(Zoom & In-Person)**

Prof. Andrew Fraknoi

Dionysus on the Danube: Politics, Society & Culture in Modern Vienna – 1865 to Present **(In-Person Only)**

Prof. David Clay Large

## WEDNESDAY MORNING

10 A.M. TO 11:40 A.M.

The Medical Lecture Series

Various Speakers

Coordinated by Melvin Cheitlin, M.D. **(Zoom Only)**

## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

1 P.M. TO 2:40 P.M.

Simply Sondheim **(Zoom & In-Person)**

Prof. Jonathan Bailey

Great Caesar's Ghost: The Enduring Presence of Ancient Rome in American Society & Culture **(In-Person Only)**

Prof. Rodger Birt

## THURSDAY MORNING

10 A.M. TO 11:40 A.M.

The Last Romantics **(Zoom & In-Person)**

Prof. Scott Foglesong

A Walk on the Dark Side: Film Noir **(In-Person Only)**

Prof. Cary Pepper

**SEMINAR:** Telling Your Story – A Workshop **(In-Person Only)**

Prof. Lynne Kaufman

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON

1 P.M. TO 2:40 P.M.

The Allure of Haiku **(Zoom Only)**

Prof. David Watts

Women Directors: Making Their Way in Hollywood **(Zoom & In-Person)**

Prof. Ruthe Stein

American Traitors & Turncoats: Benedict Arnold to Donald Trump **(In-Person Only)**

Prof. Richard Covert

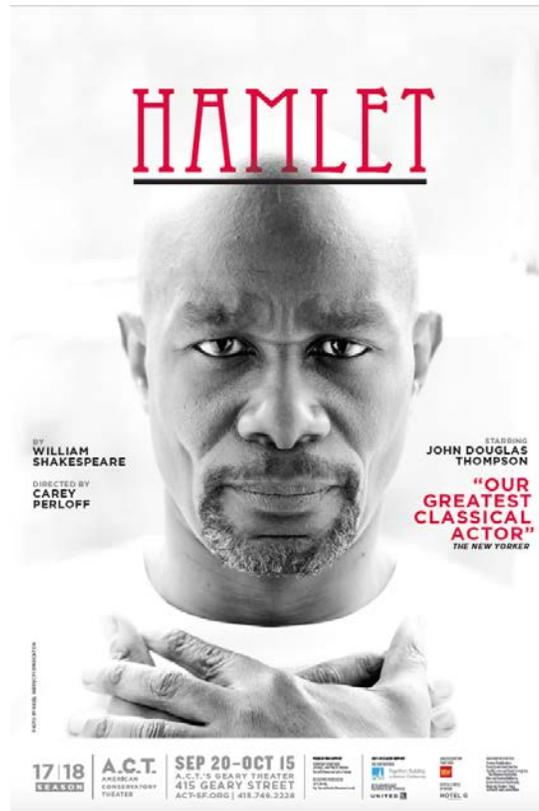
**SEMINARS (25 student max.) require active participation and faithful attendance. The first 25 enrollees will be accepted. Once 25 students enroll, the class will be closed.**

## . . . AND WHAT ABOUT PARKING?

For those interested, please complete an On-Campus Parking Permit Application (more information will be included in the course catalog which will be released on March 14). In our limited inventory of permits, we consider Disabled Drivers first, then Carpools second in the distribution. If there are any left after that, the distance from campus determines who gets a Single Driver, non-disabled permit. Should we not be able to offer you a permit, your application fee will be fully refunded.

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## LET'S TALK THEATRE



Carey Perloff, for 25 years ACT's guiding genius, will hold a Fromm conversation with the actor, John Douglas Thompson. Mr. Thompson, is a two time Obie award winner and a Tony nominee whom many of us have seen at ACT, playing roles ranging from Hamlet to Louie Armstrong in "Satchmo in the Waldorf." He has played nearly every great Shakespearean role on stages from Broadway to LA and has been called by the New Yorker "one of the best classical actors in America" and by the New York Times "one of the most compelling classical stage actors of his generation." Let these two outstanding figures in the American Theatre explore with you how an actor undertakes to make such iconic roles as Othello, Hamlet, Prospero and Shylock his own; and, more generally, how actors and directors work together to conjure, for our delight, the magic we see on the stage.

**DATE: MARCH 7, 2022 TIME: 3:30 P.M. PLACE: ON ZOOM - [REGISTER HERE.](#)**

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## WRITING WITH FIRE

By Maxine Einhorn



This Indian documentary has been nominated in the Best Documentary Feature category of the Academy Awards this year. It was also the winner of the Audience Award for World Cinema at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival. Look out for it. I previewed this remarkable film for the [Mostly British Film Festival](#) coming up in March 10-17<sup>th</sup> at the Vogue cinema and was blown away by the spirited determination of a group of women journalists fighting for justice against the Hindu power structure, the disdain of men and corruption of the police.

**This brave documentary begins with a female Dalit reporter interviewing a rape victim and her helpless husband, then challenging the police to take action. The reporter is a journalist working with a group of Dalit women – the lowest of the low in the Indian caste system – for the newspaper they established and run in Uttar Pradesh. Meera, the chief reporter and her colleagues advocate for these Dalit women, victims of caste and gender violence, while understanding the danger and huge odds against them.**

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We see them switch from print to digital using their smart phones to withstand the bullying and intimidation the women in their community face. This is India's only women led news outlet and here they are on the front lines fighting to tell the news on behalf of India's most marginalized caste. The Washington Post calls it - **"The most inspiring documentary journalism movie - maybe ever..."** I agree. Be sure to keep an eye out for it. **Stream on VUDU or Vudu Movie & TV Store on Roku.** Playing

at the Smith Rafael film Center - <https://rafaelfilm.cafilm.org/writing-with-fire/>

## A REMINDER: UPCOMING FREE EVENTS

*SPONSORED BY THE STUDENT ASSOCIATION*

### CORRELATION OF MUSIC AND DANCE PART II WITH JONAH KIM AND JULIA ROWE

Grammy-Award winning cellist Jonah Kim and San Francisco Ballet dance soloist Julia Rowe are a wonderful artistic team, and during the pandemic, they have developed their interactions on Zoom interweaving solo performances plus duets combining music and dance. Most or all of their numbers are outside! **Visit with the couple on Monday, February 28 at 3:30 p.m. on Zoom. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)**

### DROP IN BOOK CLUB - MY NAME IS LUCY BARTON BY ELIZABETH STROUT

Many of us fell in love with Olive Kitteridge, the novel and the woman. Now we can revisit Olive's creator, Elizabeth Strout, who has written "a sublimely merciful contemporary novel about love, yearning and resilience." (Boston Alone) We think you will love this short novel (191 pages) and we suspect you will love Lucy! **So join the Drop In Book Club on Zoom - Friday, March 4 at 3:00 p.m. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)**

### SAVE THE DATE

**DROP IN BOOK CLUB - OH WILLIAM! BY ELIZABETH STROUT** another short novel to be read and discussed on Friday, April 1 at 3:00 p.m. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



**Prof. Jan Wahl**, Fromm Institute's movie expert, shares her opinions on this year's Oscar nominations below. The **Express Yourself**, is always looking for stories, creative writing or other missives. If you would like to share your work, please submit articles to **Scott Moules** either at [moules@usfca.edu](mailto:moules@usfca.edu) or [fromm@usfca.edu](mailto:fromm@usfca.edu).

## OSCAR NOMINATIONS 2022

*by Jan Wahl*

*Why am I happy about the 2022 Oscar nominations? Four of my favorite movies of the year all were nominated! My expectations were low, since I have adult, intelligent taste and have been disappointed in the past, especially the recent past. But this year, I can truly accentuate the positive (also my favorite Johnny Mercer song.) Here's goes my Hooray for Hollywood:*

Please, whoever you are and whatever your own taste, see CODA. This film is so beautiful, fun, sexy and entertaining... it will be so worth your time. I was afraid this marvelous movie would be overlooked by the 9,487 voting members of the Motion Picture Academy. Surprisingly, it was nominated for Best Picture, Adapted Screenplay and Troy Katsur, Supporting Actor for his remarkable performance. If he wins, Troy is the first deaf man nominated, his costar in CODA is Marlee Matlin, who won in 1986. CODA stands for Children of Deaf Adults, and it is the rollicking tale of a fishing family in Gloucester with a speaking/hearing daughter who can really sing. From laughing to crying to being touched in your heart and soul, this is what great movie making is all about.

The same can be said for *West Side Story*, the film that shocked many of us by being that rarity: a brilliant remake. Not to take a thing away from the brilliant original; but taken on its own this is one great film, deserving of all of its seven nominations. I am rooting for Supporting Actress Ariana DeBose, and hoping Steven Spielberg brings home his third Oscar (*Schindler's List*, *Saving Private Ryan*) as Best Director. Hey, when you're good... you're good!

Speaking of cinematic genius... Kenneth Branagh is nominated for his powerful memoir of growing up in *Belfast*, Ireland. Van Morrison's haunting score as well as Supporting Actor Ciaran Hinds Grandfather are just part of this satisfying Best Picture nominee.



*Being the Ricardos* was the a truly great original screenplay (Aaron Sorkin), though not nominated. Hats off to the actor's branch who nominated the leads, Javier Bardem and Nicole Kidman, both worthy of Lucy and Desi.

Each year a movie captures the Academy voters that didn't thrill me nearly as much. *The Power of the Dog* has gorgeous cinematography. If Ari Wegner wins in that category, she will be the first woman to win it as cinematographer. This film has won hearts everywhere, and is leading the pack with twelve nominations.

Director Jane Campion is the first woman to be nominated as director twice and will most likely win. She is brilliant (her film *The Piano* is a true favorite) and she will win. Supporting Actress nominee Kirstin Dunst, terrific in this challenging role, will probably win though *West Side Story*'s Ariana DuBose is tough competition.

Seeing the list, it is refreshing to remember a year that seemed bleak but actually had some very good movies. *Summer of Soul* or *When the Revolution Could Not be Televised* is absolutely terrific, hopefully winning for Best Documentary. The Production Design was superb on *West Side Story*, opening up the streets for the dances as well as giving the mood by the scenery. *Nightmare Alley* also gave us a room to remember: a tacky carnival plus the smooth doctor's office, providing the characters with both elegance and paranoia. (The 1947 *Nightmare Alley* is a chance to see Tyrone Power at his best. A great classic film noir.) The music this year is wonderful, with Lin Manuel Miranda (*Encanto*), Van Morrison (*Belfast*) and Beyonce (*King Richard*) competing. Van Morrison would have my vote. For contributing enormously to *Belfast*. Here's where the charming *Encanto* will take home the gold.

The Oscars matter. People will now see *West Side Story*, the hilarious *Don't Look Up*, *Summer of Soul*, *The Eyes of Tammy Faye*, *Belfast* and the unforgettable *CODA*. A good year and maybe even a fun Oscar show!

